

President routinely chooses to prioritize excessive environmental regulations over people's livelihoods.

Nowhere is this clearer than in the Environmental Protection Agency's recent rule establishing stricter emissions standards for heavy-duty vehicles. The Biden administration—well, they want to saddle hard-working drivers with an onerous regulation that is going to increase vehicle costs and is going to deal a serious blow to good-paying jobs. This aggressive EPA rule will hit mom-and-pop truck operations the hardest. For trucks to be compliant with the new overregulation, it will be cost prohibitive for small business owners.

Don't get me wrong. Nebraskans—over a quarter of whom work jobs related to agriculture—care deeply about environmental stewardship, but the EPA's emissions rule wouldn't actually accomplish its stated purpose of cleaning up our environment. The EPA itself estimates that the technology required to meet this new rule's standards will cost between approximately \$2,500 and \$8,500 per vehicle. This means that many truckers will choose to keep their old heavy-duty vehicles, which do have higher rates of emissions, instead of buying vehicles that are both affordable and more climate-conscious.

During a period of high inflation and supply chain disruptions, the last thing this country needs is more expensive freight costs and fewer truckers. Congress needs to vote to overturn this excessive rule—one that will hurt both the transportation sector and consumers at large.

The bottom line is that we have an obligation to stand up and push back against out-of-touch, far-left policies. I appreciate the work so many of my colleagues are doing toward this goal.

Senator BRAUN is leading the charge to overturn the President's new environmental, social, and corporate governance rule on retirement funds. The Biden administration should not be playing games with Americans' hard-earned money like this.

My friend Senator TUBERVILLE is pushing back on the administration's Veterans Affairs rule that would funnel taxpayer dollars toward abortions.

As Senator CAPITO shared earlier, she is leading us in resisting the Obama-era WOTUS rule implemented late last year. The WOTUS rule, which I have been fighting since my first term here in the U.S. Senate, is the Federal Government at its worst. It encroaches on families, on communities, and on businesses by its brazen intrusion into States' precious water resources.

The Biden administration has a track record of prioritizing politically charged regulations over the financial and economic well-being of Americans. My colleagues and I are here to stop these rules from taking effect on more and more Americans' lives before they damage the livelihoods of even more Nebraskans and more Americans across this country.

As long as I have the honor of working in the U.S. Senate, I will continue to oppose radical, far-left rules and promote commonsense solutions instead. My colleagues on both sides of the aisle should join me.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator YOUNG and I each be able to speak for 5 minutes prior to the scheduled vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, last year, Senate Democrats used the budget reconciliation process to pass the Inflation Reduction Act. They did this without a single Republican vote. Included in that monstrosity was an \$80 billion payday for the Internal Revenue Service—more than 6.5 times the amount of funding the IRS would normally receive in any given year.

After this happened, I had a lot of Tennesseans ask me: Why does the IRS need that much money? Many of them are really fearful that the IRS is going to come after them and their small businesses. And you know what. They are probably right.

The Biden administration insists they are going to use this \$80 billion to help the IRS answer the telephones because they are only answered about 20 percent of the time, but we know that it means more audits for small businesses, small business manufacturers, and Main Street merchants. This administration has never once passed up an opportunity to expand government power, and they aren't about to stop now. We know this expansion will lead to needless harassment. That is the nature of Big Government.

But I am equally concerned about the sheer amount of data the IRS has scraped up during investigations. The IRS already collects far more data than they need. In 2022, they hired a contractor to block taxpayers from accessing government services unless they handed over sensitive biometric data. They already have your name, address, and Social Security number, but now they want to collect a picture of your government ID, your fingerprints, and a selfie photo. Why in the world would we allow the IRS to collect this data? The answer, of course, is that most people wouldn't let them have it if they had a choice. But the IRS wants to force this on the American people.

To make matters worse, we know that they are completely incapable of protecting the data they have access to. Let's just take a moment and look at some of the instances where the IRS has shown their disregard for your data security.

In 2015, hackers exposed more than 700,000 taxpayers' Social Security numbers. In 2017, the IRS notified Congress that hackers had accessed more than

100,000 Federal student aid accounts. In 2021, the infamous ProPublica leak unlawfully exposed financial information on many prominent Americans. In 2022, the 990-T leak exposed the sensitive info of more than 100,000 taxpayers not once but twice.

But even on a good day, the top men at the IRS have refused to prioritize data security.

They still haven't responded to inquiries I made about what security protocols they implemented as part of their "work from home" policy.

The IRS should be collecting the minimum amount of information required to do their job, and they should be doing all they can to protect your information. Instead, this Agency has a giant flashing sign out front inviting hackers to browse their files. These bad actors already know the IRS is vulnerable, and we will not be able to control that threat until the IRS abandons its latest power grab and prioritizes data security.

This is what the Biden administration needs to focus on before it spends 80 billion taxpayer dollars harassing the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

INFLATION

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, in recent weeks, the Biden administration has reassured Americans that our economy is historically strong and that their policies are the reason why. But far away from the White House, most people, I have to say, are unpersuaded. The cost of their bills and the state of their savings simply don't match the rosy picture that the administration presents.

There is a reason the rhetoric of this administration is so disconnected from the reality. This administration claims it is investing in America's economy, but, at the same time, it strangles our economy with unnecessary and ideologically motivated rules and regulations.

Just ask Hoosier farmers. The latest in their deluge of redtape, the rewritten waters of the United States rule, will make it much harder and significantly more expensive for our farmers to help feed the rest of the world.

Look at what they have had to navigate over just the past few years: a global pandemic, a supply chain stoppage, inflation, and the increased price of inputs.

In an industry that is so fundamental to America's prosperity, where margins for generations have been razor thin, why would we create even more uncertainty for our Nation's farmers? Because the priorities of environmental ideologues in Washington, DC, are evidently more important to this administration than the needs of the people who actually work the land—the people who provide our food supply.

This isn't part of an agenda that helps Americans. No, it is a bare-knuckle attempt to expand the reach

of the Federal Government over the lives and activities of regular people.

Now, my office has recently heard from James Ramsey from Rush County, IN. James and his family farm corn, soybeans, and wheat in the east central part of our State. They have been farming and maintaining the same land since the 1860s. They also run a small business helping farmers and counties with drainage installation, ditch digging, and land clearing, improving water quality and soil health in the process.

They started out doing minor projects back in 2008 but have since grown, acquiring their own wheel trencher and commercial plow. Through hard work and through a lot of planning, James, his father, his brother, and others have expanded this business. They have clients now throughout the State of Indiana, and they have eight employees.

It is a real American success story—exactly the type WOTUS will interrupt. James, like many other farmers and small business owners across the country, knows what these newly revised, overly complex rules will accomplish. They will accomplish increased overhead, prolonged permitting processes, slowed or even stopped projects, and, ultimately, laid-off employees.

James has never had to let a single employee go because of a lack of demand. Instead, he regards his employees as family. They have their own families to feed. They have their own mortgages to pay, their own homes to heat. And James understands this.

This is why one of his greatest fears is having to one day—sometime soon, perhaps—walk into his shop and tell one of his guys that he can't keep everyone because of these new regulations. If this new definition of WOTUS stands, that has a strong chance of becoming reality. James might have to make that walk that he so wants to avoid.

Listen, our farmers don't want to clear the land or harm its creeks and streams. They want to take care of the soil—what they have been doing for generations. They want to continue to work hard on behalf of their families and ensure that they can continue in this noble profession that their fathers and grandfathers have been involved in. They want to pass this on to their children and grandchildren.

I have to say, our farmers also know quite a bit more about their land than the bureaucrats who wrote this WOTUS rule. As James pointed out, much of Indiana is not naturally drained. Because it was cleared long ago, rain empties into manmade streams and tile drains. We have the highest percentage of subsurface drainage in the entire nation in the State of Indiana.

Drainage systems are central to the productivity of our farms. Tangling them up with greater Federal regulation could be disaster for our agriculture industry. Farmers like James

have been through so much over the past few years. They have hung in there nonetheless.

Now, just when they think they have turned another corner, WOTUS resurfaces, and, as James said, there is a real fear that these new regulations will have an even greater long-term impact than the pandemic or supply chain crisis.

Right now, our farmers are asking for clarity, for an even-handed approach to regulation that, at once, respects the environment and allows them to continue to grow. If the Biden administration is serious, if they are genuinely serious about strengthening the economy, they will reverse course and give our farmers this clarity and certainty they so desire.

We should rescind this rule.
I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 35, Jonathan James Canada Grey, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tina Smith, Christopher Murphy, Mazie Hirono, Tammy Baldwin, Margaret Wood Hassan, John W. Hickenlooper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Catherine Cortez Masto, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Alex Padilla, Michael F. Bennet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Jonathan James Canada Grey, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 34 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	Kelly	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Sinema
Cardin	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Lujan	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Collins	Markey	Van Hollen
Coons	Menendez	Warner
Cortez Masto	Murkowski	Warnock
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Welch
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Graham	Padilla	Wyden
Grassley	Peters	
Hassan	Reed	

NAYS—44

Barrasso	Hagerty	Risch
Blackburn	Hawley	Romney
Boozman	Hoeben	Rounds
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Britt	Johnson	Schmitt
Budd	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Capito	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Lee	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lummis	Thune
Cotton	Marshall	Tillis
Cramer	McConnell	Tuberville
Cruz	Moran	Vance
Daines	Mullin	Wicker
Ernst	Paul	Young
Fischer	Ricketts	

NOT VOTING—4

Crapo	Fetterman
Feinstein	Merkley

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 44.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jonathan James Canada Grey, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR RELATING TO "PRUDENCE AND LOYALTY IN SELECTING PLAN INVESTMENTS AND EXERCISING SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to legislative session and proceed to the immediate consideration of H.J. Res. 30, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 30) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to "Prudence and Loyalty in Selecting Plan Investments and Exercising Shareholder Rights".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Hawaii.

Mr. SCHATZ. Madam President, there is a group of elected officials in